

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR SESSION  
MARCH 4, 2015  
COURTHOUSE

FAYETTEVILLE, WV 25840

MEMBERS Present: Denise Scalph, Matthew Wender, John H. Lopez

Others: Donald Carte

The Fayette County Commission met for a regular meeting on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.

President Scalph called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

The Commissioners were late calling the meeting to order due to placing calls to the Legislators voicing their opposition to the HJH 13 amendment that would double figures for Homestead exemption.

Eddie Young, Assessor, presented exonerations for personal property for John F. Sr. and Kena S. Kincaid 471.10; Michael J. & Robin S. Sims 282.28; Wanda Whittington \$26.58; Brandon Edward Isaacs \$233.54; Karen & Howard Anderson \$433.38; Jeffrey A. & Catherine Styers \$831.20; Lincoln T. & Danielle N. Hall \$123.66; Levi & Lisa Hall \$836.02; Mark & Gwendolyn Bess \$116.84. Commissioner Wender motioned to accept the exonerations. Commissioner Lopez seconded. Unanimous decision.

Mr. Young presented exonerations for real property for Lewis T. Shockey & Jo Smith \$145.52; Emmett & Minda Schoolcraft \$ 187.76; Timothy Carroll \$56.88; 12 & 6 Partners LLC \$428.88. Commissioner Wender motioned to accept the exonerations. Commissioner Lopez seconded. Unanimous decision.

Mr. Young presented a real property refund for Arrow, WV Inc. (Boy Scouts) in the amount of \$418.16. Commissioner Wender offered a

motion to approve. Commissioner Lopez seconded. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Lopez motioned to approve invoices and release checks today and approve 1<sup>st</sup> half payroll to be released on March 13. Commissioner Wender seconded. Unanimous decision.

Resource Coordinator Kelly Jo Drey presented her budget request for FY 2015-2016. It did not include the increase of her salary after the agreed upon job performance review or Assistant Resource Coordinator salary. The Commission will consider and make a decision.

Ms. Drey also presented information from Lesley Taylor with Region IV To use \$1,820.50 towards archaeological work for the Winona project. These funds will come from the loan the Commission approved for this project.

Eddie Young, Assessor, presented his budget for FY 2015-2016 and informed his budget is basically the same. He is only switching one employee from Assessor's Valuation fund to General County. The Commission will review and make a decision before March 25, 2015.

Steve Kessler, Sheriff, appeared to discuss his budget for FY 2015-2016. First, a discussion was held regarding the current Concealed Weapon Bill.

The budget for the County Treasurer is the same as last year as is Law Enforcement (which covers salaries and partial uniform allowance.)

Sheriff Kessler requested a new copier and body wear cameras. \$3,500.00 for Project Lifesaver and 4 new vehicles.

The Commission asked if Sheriff Kessler would consider half for cameras, and changed the vehicles request to 3 new and 1 used.

Sheriff Kessler informed he would be agreeable.

Sheriff Kessler reported that the Excess Levy covers 19 deputies and 1 courthouse security officer.

Law Enforcement service of process is the same as 2014-2015.

Office of Transportation is the same.

When discussing Animal Control Program, the suggestion was offered to add extra help and overtime together for 2015-2016.

Community Corrections budget will depend on their grant approval. Space for this program was also discussed and the former East End Elementary property in Oak Hill was mentioned as a possibility.

Sheriff Kessler wants to wait and see how the program grows. President Scalph encouraged Community Corrections to consider using an acquainted counselor to perform programs and counseling for Community Corrections.

Commissioner Wender suggested that Ms. Berry check with WVCRP regarding discounts for using Law Enforcement cameras. Suggested having them mention yes or no in the quote.

Commissioner Wender also requested that a survey be taken on copier maintenance. Suggest requesting a group discount for using the same company county wide.

Commissioner Lopez then discussed with Mr. Young if he may be able to retire any of his vehicles.

County Clerk appeared to discuss his budget. He informed he is requesting 4 additional computers for his office. Everything else is the same as his previous budget.

Clerk Holliday also presented information for Fayette County High

School Voter registration Programs for 2015. The Commissioners will review and take into consideration.

Brian Parsons, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, appeared to request to reschedule Larry Harrah, Prosecuting Attorney, for his budget presentation. He was in Morgantown due to the illness of his father-in-law.

Discussion was then held to have a future meeting with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to review a solution to reduce the Regional Jail cost. Commissioner Wender requested a 4 year history of the jail cost and to send all copies of invoices for the Regional Jail to the Prosecuting Attorney's office.

Brian Sparks and Andrea Mender, WVU Extension office to present their 2015-2016 budget. There is an increase of \$1,250.00. The Fayette County Commission will take this into consideration and make a decision.

Susan Dufour presented the budget for the Fayette County Park Garage Department. No increases were requested. Ms. Dufour presented a quote to repair the snow plow blade. Commissioner Wender offered a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00. Commissioner Lopez seconded. Unanimous decision.

Earl Pauley and Peggy Bennett presented a budget request for the Fayette County Park. Mr. Pauley explained that the only changes made were requesting salary increases for 2 full time employees and to change some employees' statuses. The Commission informed that there will be no salary increases this year but the other requests will be decided before the end of budget session.

The Fayette County Park Pool was discussed. Commissioner Wender informed that the Commission will have to consider opening this year without the repairs needed because more than likely grant funds will not be available until after pool season. Consideration of leaks, water and chemical costs need to be addressed. The Commission requested contacting West Virginia American Water Company to invite them for a meeting to request credit for the loss of water.

Gary Redden, NRCS, appeared to discuss drafted agreements related to expenses incurred as a result of sewer line work to the Dunloup Creek Watershed Buyout Project between the White Oak PSD and Fayette County Commission and the City of Mt. Hope and the Fayette County Commission. Agreements are attached.

Commissioner Wender motioned to approve the agreements subject to approval of Prosecuting Attorney Larry Harrah. President Scalph seconded. Unanimous decision.

Mr. Redden informed that the White Oak PSD has approved but Mt. Hope has not. Mr. Redden also informed that the bookkeeping aspect of the project would be the same as the buyout project.

Each will be invoiced monthly and payments would be made by direct deposit in the FEMA Buyout account.

The Commission then discussed the resource Coordinator Assistant position. President Scalph informed that Gabe Pena was the overall choice from the job selection committee. Commissioner Wender offered a motion to approve employment of Gabe Pena at a salary of \$26,000.00 for a probation period of six months. After the probation and job review his salary could increase to \$29,000.00.

The Commission also discussed probation periods of Kelly Jo Drey and Jamie Bennett. When both employees were hired, they were told they could receive increases in salaries after their probation periods. Commissioner Wender approved for Debbie Berry to conduct job performance reviews for both employees and make salary increases effective after their probation periods. President Scalph seconded. Unanimous decision.

The Commission discussed the job vacancy in the maintenance department due to the illness of Jim Moore. Commissioner Wender offered a motion to hire Robert "Jake" Johnston at a salary of \$22,000.00. The position is full time with benefits and will have a six month probation period. President Scalph seconded. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.